

## Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: OEXC, KS

SUBJECT: CU COUNTRY PLAN PROPOSAL - FY77 AND 78

REF: A)SEOUL A-61, MAY 10, 1976; B) CM-239, MARCH 5, 1976;

C) STATE 096518

SUMMARY: COMMENTS ON THE KOREA CPP FOLLOW, WITH REQUEST FOR  
POST REACTION. END SUMMARY.

1. REGRET DELAY IN FORWARDING OUR COMMENTS AND THAT UE  
WERE UNABLE DISCUSS CPP WITH KAYS WHEN HE WAS IN WASHINGTON.  
DETAILED DISCUSSION WILL TAKE PLACE BEGINNING AUGUST WHEN  
CAO JUE ARRIVES FOR CONSULTATION.

2. FY-77 PROPOSAL IS SOUND AND POST OBJECTIVES VALID.  
DEPT WELCOMES ADDITION OF NON-ACADEMIC PROFESSIONALS  
CATEGORY AND AGREES WITH "REVERSE FLOW OF SCHOLARSHIP"  
CONCEPT. WE AGREE INCREASING SUPPORT FOR NEW AMERICAN  
STUDIES CENTER AT SNU IS WARRANTED.

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3. BUDGET WILL UNDOUBTEDLY REQUIRE REVISION AND IS MAJOR PROBLEM IN OVERALL PROPOSAL. TOTAL FY76 SUPPORT WAS JUST OVER \$370,000 AND INCLUDED CONSIDERABLE FALL-OUT FUNDING. POST HAS BEEN REMINDED THAT FUNDING LEVEL FOR FY77 WOULD

NOT BE MUCH GREATER THAN IN FY76. WE NOTE THAT FY77 FIGURE OF \$453,000 EXCEEDS LAST YEAR'S CPP ESTIMATES FOR FY77 BY OVER ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND.

4. ROKG SUPPORT IS ENCOURAGING AND POST'S CONTINUING EFFORTS FOR INCREASED CONTRIBUTIONS APPRECIATED. REQUEST POST ADVISE ON ADDITIONAL POSSIBLE COST-SHARING MEASURE WHERE ROKG WOULD FUND INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL SOME GRANTEEES BY SENDING THEM ON KOREAN AIRLINES.

5. THE STUDENT COUNSELING OPERATION IS CONTINUING TO PROVIDE A USEFUL SERVICE. DEPT WOULD APPRECIATE ACTUAL COST OF FY76 COUNSELING PROGRAM SINCE LAST CPP PROPOSED \$35,000 AND FY77 FIGURE IS \$20,000.

6. PART III, PRIORITY LISTING (PAGE 21 REF B) SUGGESTS THAT FIXED COSTS SUCH AS RENEWALS BE HIGH ON LIST. QUESTION ALSO ARISES, FOR EXAMPLE, WITH PRIORITY 18 - WOULD ALL SIX OF THE PROPOSED GRAD STUDENTS IN HUMANITIES BE FUNDED AHEAD OF REMAINING PRIORITIES 19 THROUGH 39? DEPT SUGGESTS SEPARATION ON SUCH PRIORITIES. FOR INSTANCE, SPLIT OF PRIORITY 39, SO THAT AT LEAST ONE OF NON-ACADEMIC GRANTS WOULD BE HIGHER ON LIST.

7. REGARDING FY78 PROPOSAL (PART IV), WE DISAPPOINTED AT SIMILARITY WITH FY77 PROGRAM SINCE INSTRUCTIONS URGE PRESENTATION OF INNOVATIONS. WILL APPRECIATE POST COMMENTS ON THIS. PAGE 22 OF INSTRUCTIONS REQUESTS BRIEF PARAGRAPH PRECEDING EACH PRIORITY GROUP TO EXPLAIN THE CHOICE.

8. NEW UNIT COST FACTORS WILL BE AVAILABLE SOON FOR POST'S USE. MOST FACTORS WILL BE CHANGED UPWARD, E.G. EACH IV GRANT NOW COSTS ADDITIONAL \$60 FOR DOMESTIC TRANSPORTATION, BRINGING TOTAL GRANT COST TO \$3562.

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9. IN CONCLUSION, THE OVERALL CPP IS EXCELLENT WITH TWO EXCEPTIONS: A) THE FY77 PROGRAM WILL BE FUNDED MORE ALONG FY76 LEVELS AND WE SUGGEST A REALIGNMENT OF PRIORITIES TO ENABLE THE POST TO ADAPT TO THAT FUNDING AND, B) THE POST IS ENCOURAGED TO SEE "NEW IDEAS AND PROJECTS IN POST'S CP PROJECTIONS FOR FY78" AS MENTIONED REF C AND IN INSTRUCTIONS. KISSINGER

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